Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11426 081549Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 EURE-00 /099 W
----------034130 081655Z /50
P R 081500Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 731
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11426

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, UR, SO, ET
SUBJECT: SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON OGADEN CONFLICT

SUMMARY: SOVIET SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON HORN OF AFRICA HOSTILITIES IN AUG. 7 CENTRAL PRESS ATTEMPTS TO SHOW SOVIET INTEREST IN MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA, BUT INDIRECTLY CRITICIZES SOMALIA BY REFERRING TO "SO-CALLED" WESTERN SOMALI LIBERATION FRONT, AND BY NOTING PARTICIPATION OF REGULAR SOMALI MILITARY UNITS IN CONFLICT. MOSCOW'S HINT OF POLITICAL COMPROMISE MAY BE COVER FOR MOSCOW'S URGENT NEED TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11426 081549Z

END HOSTILITIES BEFORE IRREPARABLE DAMAGE IS DONE TO SOVIET-SOMALI RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. "DEEP CONCERN" IS TITLE OF AUG. 7 STATEMENT ON HORN OF AFRICA HOSTILITIES BY SOVIET COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH ASIAN AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES. STATE-MENT:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

-- NOTES CONFLICT IN EASTERN ETHIOPIA BETWEEN ETHIOPIAN TROOPS AND DETACHMENTS OF NATIONAL MILITIA ON ONE HAND AND UNITS OF "SO-CALLED" LIBERATION FRONT OF WESTERN SOMALIA ON OTHER. "WIRE SERVICES" ARE CITED ON PARTICIPATION OF REGULAR UNITS OF SOMALI ARMED FORCES;

-- SAYS ATTEMPT TO BREAK OAU PRINCIPLES ON TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF PROBLEMS ONLY PLAYS INTO HANDS OF IMPERIALISTS WHO, ALONG WITH REACTIONARY REGIMES, ARE INCITING CONFLICT BETWEEN TWO "PROGRESSIVE" REGIMES TO DETRACT ATTENTION FROM PRIMARY TASKS IN AFRICA;

-- DECLARES THAT SOVIET SOCIETY, WHICH HAS ALWAYS RELATED WITH SPECIAL SYMPATHY TO SOMALI AND ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE, EXPRESS DEEP CONCERN OVER OUTBREAK OF FRATRICIDAL ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN TWO STATES FRIENDLY TO SOVIET UNION, AND;

-- CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF ARMED ACTS, BEGINNING OF PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOAL OF SEARCHING, "IN SPIRIT OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST SOLIDARITY", FOR POLITICAL SOLUTION TO TERRITORIAL DISPUTE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

2. AUG. 7 PRAVDA PRINTS STATEMENT SIDE BY SIDE WITH TASS YAOUNDE REPORT ON OAU MEETING TO DISCUSS CONFLICT. FOREIGN NEWS AGENCIES, SAYS TASS, POINT OUT ACTUAL PARTICIPATION OF SOMALI MILITARY UNITS IN BATTLES IN SOUTHEAST ETHIOPIA.

3. COMMENT: SOVIETS HAVE STILL NOT DIRECTLY TAKEN PUBLIC SIDES IN CONFLICT, BUT SARCASTIC REFERENCES TO "SO-CALLED" LIBERATION FRONT AND REPEATED MEDIA REFERENCE TO PARTICIPATION OF SOMALI ARMED FORCES IS CLEAR INDICATION THAT SOVIETS FAVOR ETHIOPIAN SIDE IN DISPUTE. ON OTHER HAND, SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE'S HINT OF POLITICAL SOLUTION TO TERRITORIAL DISPUTE IS DESIGNED TO TAKE THE DIPLOMATIC HIGH ROAD AND SUGGESTS SOVIETS DO NOT WISH TO SEE "MILITARY" RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT. WHETHER MOSCOW REALLY BELIEVES SOMALIS OR ETHIOPIANS WOULD BE AMENABLE TO A POLITICAL SOLUTION NOW IS PROBLEMATICAL, BUT MOSCOW DOUBTLESS WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO END ACTUAL FIGHTING BEFORE POINT IS REACHED AT WHICH IT WILL HAVE TO APPLY PRESSURE TO SOMALIA, THUS WORSENING SOVIET-SOMALI RELATIONS AND DRIVING SOMALIS FURTHER AWAY FROM "PROGRESSIVE CAMP."

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

TOON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMITTEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW11426
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770284-0988
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770886/aaaacuki.tel
Line Count: 117
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2d1edd5f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1675494
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON OGADEN CONFLICT SUMMARY: SOVIET SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON HORN OF AFRICA HOSTILITIES IN AUG. 7 CENTRAL PRE SS ATTEMPT
TAGS: MILI, PGOV, UR, SO, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2d1edd5f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009